

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated December 22, 2004, setting a one-month period to respond. Without prejudice to renew their arguments concerning the alleged deficiencies in the previously-filed amendment, applicants file a divisional application contemporaneously herewith claiming priority to the instant application.

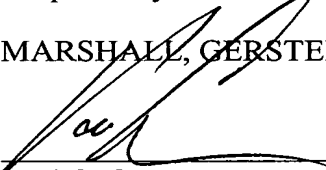
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 29757/AG74. Specifically, this is a conditional request for any extension of time that may be required for the filing of this paper and the contemporaneously-filed divisional application. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN

Date: January 24, 2005

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